



CROSSlink

2107 3 Oaks Rd, Cary, IL 60013
847.639.1702 Church Office
847.639.6533 Preschool Office
www.HolyCrossCary.org

Worship Services:
Saturdays 5:30PM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 8:30AM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 10:45AM (LOFT)

June 2021

From Pastor's Desk

Let Us Come Into His Presence With Thanksgiving!

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! ² Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! ³ For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ⁴ In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also. ⁵ The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land. ⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! ⁷ For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.
Psalm 95:1-7

Facing death, with Jesus at our side. We all know people, relatives, and friends, who are seriously ill and facing the reality that death could be soon. As I am writing this, I am preparing to leave for the airport. We are planning to see our daughter, son-in-law, and three of our grandchildren in California before the day is over. The first time that we have seen them in 15 months. Part of our visit will deal with the topics of serious illness and death. Their young lab dog who has been a wonderful addition to their family, is seriously ill and the prognosis isn't good. Their little brother, Zephaniah Lazarus, died in the womb months ago and we may finally decide on a gravestone for his burial spot. Not easy topics for anyone, but we know Jesus will be with us through it all!

I think about death quite a bit, whether I want to or not. I am sure I'm not alone in this. We recently had a church member, just a little older than myself, who suddenly 'passed away'. I have classmates from grade school through seminary days who have passed from this life. My father was received into the arms of Jesus this past October. A seminary classmate, just a year older than me, recently died. I soon turn 65. Yes, I can't help but be reminded of my mortality and my need to be ready for my last day. I say, "Lord, there are so many things I want to yet do and experience. Yet, not my will, but Yours' be done. Father, into Your hands I commend myself!" Whatever each day brings, we can face it, without fear, with Jesus at our side!

I am determined that we will do all that we can to help one another prepare to come into the eternal presence of God with eternal joy and gratitude! One way that I am convinced that we can do this is by encouraging one another to join us in worship every week. In Word and Sacrament, God equips, encourages, feeds, and prepares His people for whatever may come their way!

In Jesus we are prepared and ready! I have talked about this often in sermons, in confirmation and in Sunday morning Bible Class: "Trusting in Christ Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are prepared for our last day. Trusting in Jesus, in repentance and faith, we KNOW our sins are forgiven and we have God's assurance of eternal life in heaven." It is all about Jesus! In Jesus we have life eternal! Apart from Jesus, we perish!

It is profound and amazing, yet so true. In Christ Jesus, everything necessary for our salvation, as God has promised, is completed. With Job we can say, "I KNOW that my REDEEMER LIVES!" And Jesus tells us, and all who trust in Him (even though our faith be faltering and imperfect), "Because I live, you shall live also." He assures us, "I go to prepare a place for you, and I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, you will be also."

This is what we remember and celebrate every time we come to worship. Every time we partake of His Holy Supper, every time we come into His presence with thanksgiving, prayer, and praise. Yes, sometimes our days are dark and troubled. Sometimes we are afraid, our days may even appear to be numbered and coming to an end very soon, but our Lord tells us, **“Do not be afraid, I am with you!”**

“Do not overlook or take for granted the privilege of worship!” God offers such amazing gifts through His Word & Sacraments in the fellowship of His people! To hear God’s Word, to receive His Holy Supper, and to be part of the fellowship of God’s people, is a gift and privilege that is not to be overlooked or taken lightly. **Yet, this is exactly what so many people are doing, right now, in our country, our community and sadly, also in our church!**

Who Do You Worship?

We have the example of the early church, after Jesus’ ascension and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on His Church at Pentecost. **Acts 2:42:** “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” This was said of the early Christians, can it be said of us? If we are not devoted to God, what are we devoted to? And what will come of it?

When each week comes around, who or what gets the priority, the position of honor and attention in your life? Is it work? Is it the pursuit of riches? Is it sports? Is it leisure? Is it time with family? By the way, these can all be good and honorable parts of our life as we seek to care for ourselves, our family, and others. We can honor God by living and celebrating the life and blessings that God has given to us. BUT, the LORD, HE IS GOD! All these other things mean nothing if we don’t have Jesus or if we let them take the place of Jesus!

I know that some are unable to physically come to worship at church with fellow Christians. Our prayers are continually with them. We and many other congregations offer live streaming and recorded services, but these ministry offerings cannot totally take the place of worshipping together. Where we are able, we bring church home to people, bringing a devotional service and the Lord’s Supper. But the greatest encouragement we can give to one another is when we are committed and able to gather for worship. Where we can see one another, visit, build friendships, and resolve issues in person through words of contrition, forgiveness and peace.

GOD’S PEOPLE NEED TO GO TO CHURCH!

There are several amazing things that I believe can happen here at Holy Cross. There are things that many of us want to see happen here in the work, ministry, and fellowship of Holy Cross. I am convinced that God has great things in mind for Holy Cross as we begin a new chapter. But it will not happen out of thin air! God’s people must come together to worship each week in God’s House! I do not see another path forward but for God’s people to be together in worship, commitment, and dedication to the Lord. And whether the number be large or small, God will do great things through these people of faith! My friend, will you be numbered among them?

Let us dedicate ourselves to the Lord in all things! Let us see the practice and blessing of worship again grow among us. Let us each make the commitment that Joshua makes before his people, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!”

In Christ,

Rev. Glenn Meyer, Intentional Interim Pastor

News and Work Objectives From Pastor’s Desk

- **Interim Task Force:** Is now meeting, with a goal of meeting each week and presenting a report to the congregation within the next two months. THEY ARE NOT THE CALL COMMITTEE, who will be appointed later when this Task Force is prepared to report. This report of the Interim Task Force will include our strengths; weaknesses; opportunities for ministry; identified needs and progress to date; and what we believe should be our signature ministries going forward. If the members of Holy Cross accepts their report, then it will be shared with district and we will begin our final steps for calling our next resident pastor.

- **Trust God, follow where HE leads, and extend a Unanimous Call.** We must trust our Lord God and seek His guidance in ALL things, including our preparations which will lead to a call process that (I believe) MUST lead to a willing UNANIMOUS call extended to our next resident pastor. We trust that that God will lead us to **His** choice at **His** chosen time.
- **Ministry Action Council.** Work has begun to get this council up and running in the month of June. The Ministry Action Council (MAC) will work directly with me, the pastor, and will be made up of people who represent various action ministries of our church: Parish Administrator, Elders, OWLS, etc. It will also include people who have a passion about doing ministry and are willing to help the pastor and others at Holy Cross start new ministries.
- **Communication** is always a huge need and priority at any congregation, especially Holy Cross. Watch for regular reports and updates to be given at our worship services, starting (hopefully) June 13. This initiative comes from the Board of Governance. We are preparing to address some building and ministry needs in proposals that will be brought to the congregation at a Voters' Meeting, possibly June 20. Watch for details!
- **New Chapter:** I believe God is leading Holy Cross into an exciting new chapter of life and ministry! We praise God for past blessings, and we trust God as we step forward, in faith, following where He leads us!
- **In anything good that has and will happen, all the glory and praise will be to God, because apart from Him, we can do nothing! Sola Deo Gloria**
- Your fellow servant in Christ, Pastor Meyer

Mask Update

According to [coronavirus.illinois.gov](https://www.coronavirus.illinois.gov), Governor Pritzger will be moving Illinois to phase 5 on June 11. Phase 5 means there are no capacity limits and our state is fully reopened. Governor Pritzger also said that Illinois will be following the CDC with regards to masks. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), fully vaccinated people in Illinois can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing themselves. At Holy Cross, masks will be optional in church beginning June 12/13. For those wishing to continue wearing a mask, we will have them available in the narthex.

Website Updates

Dear Brother's and Sister's In Christ,

Praise God! We are very excited to announce that Holy Cross has a completely new and redesigned website. It's a new site, but we still have the same great website address: www.holycrosscary.org.

We pray that this is a blessing to both you, our dear members, and the community at large around us whom we serve.

Please visit the site, take a look around, and come back often! It has a ton of great information and is much more functional. From our Lead Staff, volunteer ministries, and ways you can get involved, to worship times, a calendar of events, and our CrossLink Newsletter. It's chalk-full of good stuff!

We will continue to improve the site and add to it over time. If you would like to help with maintaining the website, or if you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know by reaching out to the church office, or by contacting Keith Toborg.

In Christ,

Keith Toborg
Technology Ministry

OWLS Happenings

OWLS will be meeting in June on the 3rd and 17th. Brad Miller is the host this month. Picnics in the fresh air and sunshine will resume unless rain sends us back to the LOFT to enjoy our time together.

Please join us at Rotary Park on Klasen Road at noon on June 3. Bring your lunch. There will be cold drinks and ice cream to make your own sundae. A grill will be available if you would like to cook something. Bring your favorite game to share. Magazines and books can be exchanged or donated to The Bethesda Shop.

Watch the church bulletins and OWLS bulletin board for plans for June 17.

LWML News

GIFTS FROM THE HEART collection will continue through Sunday, June 20. They will be taken by our LWML delegate to the June 24-27 convention in Lexington, KY.

The need is for sunglasses and eyeglasses for MOST Ministries, baby care items for Assurance of Life Ministry, and gift cards for Walmart or Target for the food pantry at the LCMS seminaries in St. Louis and Fort Wayne.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Stamps for Missions

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League NID invites you to save postage stamps – especially during the holiday season and donate them for our mission goal.

Since 1997 Lutheran Women in Mission across the Northern Illinois District have been clipping, sorting and sending in cancelled postage stamps. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, here is what LWML is looking for:

1. All intact picture postcards. Do not cut off the stamps, send the entire postcard.
2. All old (pre-1930) envelopes intact. Do not cut off the stamps.
3. All foreign stamps, large and small.
4. Large commemorative U.S. stamps.
5. Small definitive (common) U.S. stamps (including USA nonprofit bulk stamps), except **DO NOT** save Love, Flag, Bell OR Christmas stamps. Save unused charity return mail stamps.
6. Any collections of stamps, save on sheets if possible and do not remove stamps from pages/albums.

If at all possible, stamps should be trimmed leaving about 1/4" margin around the stamp. Do not trim stamps to touch perforations or the stamps will be discarded.

Look in the narthex for a place to drop off your donations. This is an ongoing project.

June

	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3 Noon OWLS	4	5 10:00A Confirmation 5:30P Worship
6 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	7 Confirmation boot camp 10A-2P	8 Confirmation boot camp 10A-2P	9 Confirmation boot camp 10A-2P	10 10:00A Prayer Shawl	11	12 5:30P Worship 7:00P Taizé Service
13 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	14 6:30P Elders	15	16	17 OWLS	18	19 5:30P Worship
20 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	21 6:30P Governing Board	22	23	24 10:00A Prayer Shawl 7:00P Confirmation	25	26 5:30P Worship
27 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	28	29	30			

2021